on a *bourgeois* of Troyes, by name Louis Bourdon, whose figure and good looks had struck her in one or other of her journeys. The surly, capricious temper of Louis XIII. having kept him at a distance all the time that was necessary for colouring the deceit with the appearance of probability, she was obliged to keep the birth of the intended heir secret and confide him to trusty hands that were never to abandon him. At the same time he was to remain in eternal ignorance of his birth and parentage. A second attempt was more successfully achieved, by which Louis XIV* saw the light, whilst his unhappy elder brother was imprisoned at different places, but treated with great attention and expense. Probably his guardian disclosed the secret to him on the death of Louis XIII. and thereby occasioned his removal and close confinement. Linguet says that a lady at Chartres, ninety years old, still alive, and in her youth mistress to one of the ministers, was surprised this should not be known, as it was no secret when she lived in the world.[1] Madame Campan tells me that her

father-in-

i It has been stated in a previous note that, although the real name of the "Iron Mask" still remains a mystery, it is the general opinion that the sufferer was the unfortunate Fouquet.